

Applicants: Rodney Rothstein et al.
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Page 2

- II. Claims 4-11, drawn to isolated nucleic acids encoding the proteins of Group I, antisense nucleic acids, vectors and host cells thereof;
- III. Claims 12 and 13, drawn to antibodies which recognize the proteins of Group I;
- IV. Claims 14-23, drawn to a screening assay for identifying compounds which reduce the division rate of a cell by altering the interaction between ribonucleotide reductase and the SmL1 protein, compounds identified thereby and pharmaceutical compositions thereof; and
- V. Claims 24-36, drawn to methods for inhibiting cell division comprising contacting a cell with compounds of Group IV, and methods of treating cancer, microbial infections and ataxia telangiectasia comprising the administration of compounds which increase the interaction between ribonucleotide reductase and the SmL1 protein;

In response, applicants hereby elect Group IV, claims 14-23, drawn to a screening assay, compounds identified thereby and pharmaceutical compositions thereof, with traverse for prosecution at this time.

REMARKS

Applicants, however, respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement. Under 35 U.S.C. §121, restriction may be required if two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in one application. Under M.P.E.P. §803, the Examiner must examine the application on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct inventions, if the search and examination can be made without serious burden.